

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of managing media stream connections for a media session, said method comprising:
 - receiving a session description of a media session;
 - parsing the session description to determine appropriate media application programs for processing at least one media stream of the session description, the session description including data relating to a quality of service policy;
 - determining ~~based on available resources~~ whether participation in the media session is viable using the data relating to a quality of service policy based on said data;
 - selecting one or more media streams identified in the session description;and
 - connecting the selected one or more media streams to one or more respective media application programs utilising a session control configured for managing media stream connections for the one or more media application programs;
 - wherein the one or more media application programs select one or more of the media streams identified in the session description which are required and pass respective connection requests to the session control.
2. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, in which the selection of the one or more media streams is carried out by the session control according to predetermined criteria.

3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 2, in which the predetermined criteria are specific to the preferences of at least one of the group consisting of an end-user, the terminal and the one or more media application programs.

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A method of managing media stream connections for a media session, said method comprising:

receiving a session description of a media session;

parsing the session description to determine appropriate media application programs for processing at least one media stream of the session description, the session description including data relating to a quality of service policy;

determining whether participation in the media session is viable using the data relating to a quality of service policy;

selecting one or more media streams identified in the session description;

connecting the selected one or more media streams to one or more respective media application programs utilising a session control configured for managing media stream connections for the one or more media application programs; and

~~A method according to claim 1, further comprising passing at least a portion of the session description to the one or more media application programs.~~

6. (previously presented) A method according to claim 5, in which the one or more media application programs generate or modify a quality of service policy for the connection requests for use by the session control.

7. (previously presented) A method according to claim 5, in which the one or more media application programs modify the session description for changing the subsequent management of connections by the session control.

8. (currently amended) A method according to claim 41, in which the session control passes the connection requests to a terminal communications manager which determines whether the connection requests are viable and subsequently initiates the connections.

9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 8, in which the session control prioritises the connection requests from the one or more media application programs according to the quality of service policy to create a set of connection requests which are passed to the communications manager.

10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 8, in which the communications manager determines resources required for each connection request and whether the requests can be met given available resources.

11. (original) A method according to claim 10, in which if the connection requests can be met the connections are initiated.

12. (original) A method according to claim 10, in which if a connection request cannot be met and the connection request is for an optional media stream of the

media session then the communications manager proceeds by declaring the connection request unviable and moves to the next connection request.

13. (original) A method according to claim 10, in which if a connection request cannot be met and the connection request is for a mandatory media stream of the media session then the communications manager proceeds by attempting to free resources to meet the connection request.

14. (original) A method according to claim 13, in which if the communications manager is unable to free sufficient resources to meet the connection request, the connection request is declared unviable and the communications manager refuses to join the media session.

15. (currently amended) A method of managing media stream connections for a media session, said method comprising:

receiving a session description of a media session;

parsing the session description to determine appropriate media application programs for processing at least one media stream of the session description, the session description including data relating to a quality of service policy;

determining whether participation in the media session is viable using the data relating to a quality of service policy;

selecting one or more media streams identified in the session description;

connecting the selected one or more media streams to one or more respective media application programs utilising a session control configured for managing media stream connections for the one or more media application programs; and

~~A method according to claim 1, further comprising obtaining a missing part of the session description by following one or more links in the session description before parsing the session description.~~

16. (currently amended) A system for managing media stream connections derived from a session description for a media session, the system comprising:

a session control for parsing the session description to determine one or more appropriate media application programs for processing at least one media stream of the session description;

a communications manager for determining based on available resources whether the participation in the media session is viable using a quality of service policy based on quality of service data provided in said session description; and

the session control being configured for managing media stream connections for the one or more media application programs;

wherein the media application programs are arranged to select one or more of the media streams identified in the session description which are required and pass a number of connection requests to the session control.

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A system for managing media stream connections derived from a session description for a media session, the system comprising:

a session control for parsing the session description to determine one or more appropriate media application programs for processing at least one media stream of the session description;

a communications manager for determining based on available resources whether the participation in the media session is viable using a quality of service policy based on quality of service data provided in said session description; and

the session control being configured for managing media stream connections for the one or more media application programs;

~~A system according to claim 16,~~ in which the session control is arranged to pass at least a portion of the session description to the one or more media application programs.

19. (original) A system according to claim 18, in which the media applications are arranged to generate or modify a quality of service policy for the connection requests for use by the session control.

20. (previously presented) A system according to claim 18, in which the one or more media application programs are arranged to modify the session-description for changing the subsequent management of connections by the session control.

21. (previously presented) A system according to claim 16, the communications manager being configured for initiating the connections.

22. (original) A system according to claim 21, in which the communications manager is arranged to determine whether the connection requests are viable and subsequently initiate the connections.

23. (currently amended) A system for managing media stream connections derived from a session description for a media session, the system comprising:

a session control for parsing the session description to determine one or more appropriate media application programs for processing at least one media stream of the session description;

a communications manager for determining based on available resources whether the participation in the media session is viable using a quality of service policy based on quality of service data provided in said session description; and

the session control being configured for managing media stream connections for the one or more media application programs;

the communications manager being configured for initiating the connections;

~~A system according to claim 21, in which the session control system is adapted to prioritise the connection requests for the one or more media streams from one or more of the media application programs according to the quality of service policy to create a set of connection requests which are passed to the communications manager.~~

24. (previously presented) A system according to claim 21, in which the communications manager is arranged to determine resources required for each connection request in sequence and whether the connection requests can be met given available resources.

25. (original) A system according to claim 24, in which the communications manager is arranged to initiate the connections if the connection requests can be met.

26. (currently amended) A system for managing media stream connections derived from a session description for a media session, the system comprising:

a session control for parsing the session description to determine one or more appropriate media application programs for processing at least one media stream of the session description;

a communications manager for determining based on available resources whether the participation in the media session is viable using a quality of service policy based on quality of service data provided in said session description; and

the session control being configured for managing media stream connections for the one or more media application programs;

the communications manager being configured for initiating the connections;

in which the communications manager is arranged to determine resources required for each connection request in sequence and whether the connection requests can be met given available resources; and

~~A system according to claim 24, in which the communications manager is arranged to declare a connection request unviable and to move to the next connection request if the connection request cannot be met and it is for an optional media stream of the media session.~~

27. (currently amended) A system for managing media stream connections derived from a session description for a media session, the system comprising:

a session control for parsing the session description to determine one or more appropriate media application programs for processing at least one media stream of the session description;

a communications manager for determining based on available resources whether the participation in the media session is viable using a quality of service policy based on quality of service data provided in said session description; and

the session control being configured for managing media stream connections for the one or more media application programs;

the communications manager being configured for initiating the connections;

in which the communications manager is arranged to determine resources required for each connection request in sequence and whether the connection requests can be met given available resources; and

~~A system according to claim 24, in which~~ the communications manager is arranged to attempt to free resources to meet a connection request if the connection request cannot be met and it is for a mandatory media stream of the media session.

28. (original) A system according to claim 27, in which the communications manager is arranged to declare a connection request unviable and thereby refuse to join the media session if it is unable to free sufficient resources to meet the connection request.

29. (currently amended) A system for managing media stream connections derived from a session description for a media session, the system comprising:

a session control for parsing the session description to determine one or more appropriate media application programs for processing at least one media stream of the session description;

a communications manager for determining based on available resources whether the participation in the media session is viable using a quality of service policy based on quality of service data provided in said session description; and

the session control being configured for managing media stream connections for the one or more media application programs;

~~A system according to claim 16, further comprising an announcement interface which is arranged to detect missing modules in a received session description and subsequently obtain them using location identifying links provided in the session description.~~

30. (previously presented) A computer readable storage medium containing executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

31. (previously presented) A terminal comprising at least one memory containing executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.